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520.42437VX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): K. OKAMOTO, et al.  
Application No.: 10/769,804  
Filed: February 3, 2004  
For: JOINT OF METALLIC MATERIALS CONNECTED AT A  
JOINING ZONE (As Amended)  
Expected Group: 3679  
Expected Examiner: V. MacArthur

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 13, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a List, on a Form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of documents cited in an Information Disclosure Statement submitted April 13, 2004, in prior Application No. 10/358,178, filed February 5, 2003.

Since Application No. 10/358,178 is being relied upon under 35 USC §120 in the above-identified application, copies of the documents on the enclosed List are not enclosed herewith. See 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR. §1.97(b) are satisfied.

To the extent that the documents on the enclosed List are not in English, it is

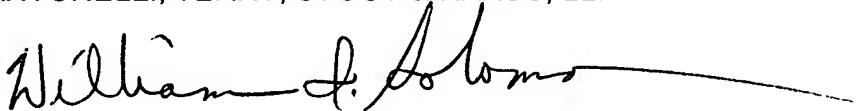
respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by citation of relevant passages of the documents in the European Search Report enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement filed April 13, 2004, and/or by English Abstracts of the respective documents also submitted therewith.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR. §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with present submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, consideration of the documents on the enclosed List, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: No. 520.42437VX1), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 520.42437VX1	APPLICATION NO. 10/769,804
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		<b>APPLICANT</b> K. Okamoto, et al.	
		<b>FILING DATE</b> February 3, 2004	<b>EXPECTED GROUP</b> 3679

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA	2002/0027153	3/7/2002	Sayama, et al.			
AB						
AC						
AD						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/ Abstracts	
						Yes	No
AE	1 279 458	1/29/2003	EP				
AF	2002-66758	3/5/2002	Japan			X	
AG	2001-47261	2/20/2001	Japan			X	
AH	36 26 009	2/12/1987	DE			X	
AI	11-285862	10/19/1999	Japan			X	
AJ	WO 01/85384	11/15/2001	PCT				
AK	1 201 347	5/2/2002	EP				
AL							

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

AM	European Search Report mailed January 13, 2004 for EP No. 03 00 5452
AN	
AO	
AP	
AQ	
AR	
<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC